

**To:** R8EISC[R8EISC@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Jenkins, Laura Flynn[Jenkins.Laura@epa.gov]; Spenser W Havlick[havlick@colorado.edu]  
**From:** Spenser W Havlick  
**Sent:** Sun 8/16/2015 11:09:25 PM  
**Subject:** Re: ... editorial for the Daily Camera ... greetings Shaun,

This message is for Laura Jenkins,

Dear Laura,

Thank you for helping me connect with Shaun McGrath during these very busy days of the Animas River difficulty.

Please let Shaun know how much I appreciated his views that I was able to partly incorporate in my editorial yesterday. His words gave me new insights about the role the state of Colorado should have played.

I attach my revised version for your viewing. Let me know if I can ever be of help to advocate for the EPA, for Shaun, or what good efforts you are making.

Spense Havlick

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the preeminent federal watchdog and protector of our nation's water, land and air quality. The Animas River catastrophe is intolerable partly because Colorado has refused a National Priorities Listing for mine cleanup. The toxic plume extending from Colorado into New Mexico and the Navajo Reservation impacts some of the most vulnerable people and fragile landscapes.

The polluted Animas River dumps into the San Juan River whose vital water, now contaminated, is lifeblood to towns and ranches of Ute and Navajo people. Health officials say both rivers are off limits.

The mustard-colored Animas River that suffered acid mine water discharge this week has unusual connections to Boulder. Region 8 EPA Administrator is Shaun McGrath, a former Boulder mayor (2007) and a strong environmental advocate. He worked at the White House during the BP Gulf oil spill and faced outrage from impacted citizens and elected officials. Shaun hosted a meeting in Durango that was met with charges of cover up, distrust of the federal government and demands for reparations.

I have admired the beauty of the Animas, worked a service project on the Navajo Reservation and know kayakers and anglers from Boulder who frequent the Animas. Many people from Boulder cherish Lake Powell and the San Juan River. The entire Four Corners area is threatened by uranium and acid mine wastes. Without required old mine cleanup, Superfund designation is the unpopular solution. Let us give the EPA a fair hearing, free of local obstructionism, and enable the EPA to move more resources into the Four Corners area that has suffered from inadequate acid mine mitigation.

**Spense Havlick**      [havlick@colorado.edu](mailto:havlick@colorado.edu)      241 words

On Aug 12, 2015, at 2:03 PM, R8EISC wrote:

Email: [press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov)

Aug. 12, 2015

2:00 PM MDT: EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy Holding Media Availability in Durango, CO

DURANGO, CO - EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy will visit Durango, CO today to inspect response efforts relating to the release of waste water from Gold King mine, and meet with state, local and tribal officials and community members. McCarthy will hold a media availability in Durango for credentialed news media only about the response. Tomorrow, Administrator McCarthy will visit the response efforts in Farmington, NM. More details about the visit will be released as they become available.

WHEN: 2:00 PM MTN

WHO: EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy

WHAT: Administrator McCarthy media availability on the unified response to the Gold King Mine incident.

WHERE: Outside Gold King Mine Unified Command Center  
2500 Main. Ave.  
Durango, CO 81301

NOTE: The media availability in Durango will take the place of today's media conference call.

---

From: Spenser W Havlick <[havlick@colorado.edu](mailto:havlick@colorado.edu)>

Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 7:31 PM

To: R8EISC

Cc: Spenser W Havlick

Subject: greetings Shaun,

Spense Havlick is writing a brief editorial for the Daily Camera and would like a brief comment. Spense would like to give EPA the benefit of doubt as he covers this story. Most useful from Shaun would be thoughts on best possible mitigation for the Animas (and Navajo Nation, etc.) and how to prevent future acid mine contamination in Region 8.

Best regards to Shaun from Boulder city council colleague.

This is Spense Havlick writing.....303-494-0664